(a) whether Government are aware that a large quantity of flowers destined for export to various countries has been lying at different airports including Bangalore for want of transportation facilities;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure transportation of these flowers to their destination to boost floriculture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ((SHRI RAJIVPRATAP RUDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of limited cargo space, the exporters occasionally face difficulties in exports of flowers during Christmas and Valentine season.

(c) Agricultural and Processed Food Product Exports Development Authority (APEDA) has set up cold storage and cargo handling facilities at various international airports for handling export of perishable cargo including floriculture products and provides air freight assistance to exporters. Further it assesses floriculture export volume and liaises with Air India in order to facilitate exports of flowers.

SEZs in Andhra Pradesh

4494. SHRIRUMANDLARAAMACHANDRAYYA:
SHRIRAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of States where Special Economic Zones have been set up in the country;

(b) the places where new SEZs are proposed to be set up in future; and

(c) the number and other details of SEZs in the State of Andhra Pradesh alongwith details of new SEZs to be set up there in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Eight existing Export Processing Zones (EPZs) converted into Special Economic Zones (SEZs) located at Santa Cruz (Maharashtra), Cochin (Kerala), Kandla and Sural (Gujarat), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Falta (West Bengal) and Noida (Uttar Pradesh) are at present functional.

(b) Approval has so far been given for setting up of 18 Special Economic Zones at Visakhapatnam and Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh), Positra (Gujarat), Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Nangunery (Tamil Nadu), Paradeep and Gopalpur (Orissa), Kulpi and Salt Lake (West Bengal), Bhadohi, Kanpur, Greater Noida and Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh), Hassan (Karnataka), \allarpadam/Puthuvypeen (Kerala) and Jaipur (Rajasthan) on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments/Private Promoters.

(c) Apart from the functioning SEZ at Visakhapatnam, details of two SEZs approved for establishment in Andhra Pradesh are given below:

Location	Name of the Promoter
Vishakhapatnam	Government of Andhra Pradesh M/s. Kakinada
Kakinada	Seaports Ltd.

Assistance to tea plantations

4495. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

SHRI S ANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans on giving special subsidies to tea plantations for introducing new techniques for better and improved production,

(b) if so, whether Government have chalked out a proposal for introducing such a plan;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government realize the fact that Indian tea has lost its market share in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENIVTDYA S AGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Tenth Plan Schemes of the Tea Board have been formulated in a comprehensive manner for all round development of the tea industry in India in the spheres of production, productivity, quality, modernization of tea processing units, small tea growers development, tea market promotion, human resource development and research. Evolving new techniques is a continuous process and the findings of the Tea Research Institutes in this regard are disseminated to the tea industry